

REMARKS

Claims 5-8, 10, 12-15, 17, 19-20, and 24-26 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 21-23, and 27-28 are canceled.

No new matter has been added.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (A)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6, 9, 11, 16, 21-23, and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takahashi '034 in view of disclosure in Applicants' specification. Claims 1-3, 6, 9, 11, 16, 21-23, and 27-28 have been canceled in the instant amendment, without prejudice, therefore, Applicants shall not address the rejection of these claims. However, Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a later filed application and without admission as to the current pending rejections.

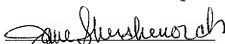
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's suggestion to rewrite claims 4-5, 7, 10, 12-15, 17-20, and 24-26. "Claims 4-5, 7, 10, 12-15, 17-20, and 24-26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." (Office Action at page 3). Applicants amended claims 5, 7, 10-11, 13-15, 17-20, and 24-26 accordingly. Applicants canceled claims 4 and 12 without prejudice in the instant amendment but wish to reserve the right to pursue these in a later filed application without admission as to the current pending rejections.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing places the claims in condition for allowance or alternatively in better form for appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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